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-SOVIETS SAY FIGHTER FIRED WARNING SHOTS NEAR AIRLINER -2-
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MOSCOW -(DJ)--THE SOVIET UNION ON FRIDAY SAID A JET FIGHTER FIRED +WARNING SHOTS WITH TRACER SHELLS+ ALONG THE PATH OF AN AIRPLANE THAT CROSSED INTO SOVIET AIRSPACE IN THE FAR EAST AND THAT THE PLANE DISAPPEARED AFTER FLYING OUT OF SOVIET AIR ROUTES.

THE KREMLIN DID NOT SPECIFICALLY DENY REPORTS THAT ITS AIR FORCE SHOT DOWN A SOUTH KOREAN AIRLINER, BUT IMPLIED THAT THE JET INTRUDED INTO SOVIET AIRSPACE ON A SPY MISSION.
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-(DJ-09-02-83 1714GMT)

-SOVIETS SAY FIGHTER FIRED WARNING SHOTS NEAR AIRLINER -3-

+TASS IS AUTHORIZED TO STATE THAT IN THE LEADING CIRCLES OF THE SOVIET UNION THEY EXPRESS THEIR REGRET IN CONNECTION WITH HUMAN VICTIMS AND TOGETHER WITH THIS DECISIVELY CONDEMN THOSE WHO CONSCIOUSLY OR AS A RESULT OF CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE ALLOWED DEATH OF PEOPLE AND NOW TRY TO USE THE ACCIDENT FOR UNSEEMLY POLITICAL PURPOSES,+ THE OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY SAID IN A FORMAL STATEMENT.
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-(DJ-09-02-83 1723GMT)

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-SOVIETS SAY FIGHTER FIRED WARNING SHOTS NEAR AIRLINER -4-

IT WAS THE FIRST OFFICIAL COMMENT ON THE DOWNED BOEING 747 SINCE A TERSE TASS REPORT THURSDAY NIGHT SAID SIMPLY THAT AN UNIDENTIFIED AIRPLANE HAD FLOWN OVER THE SOVIET UNION+S KAMCHATKA PENINSULA AND THE ISLAND OF SAKHALIN.

THE UNITED STATES HAS SAID A SOVIET FIGHTER SHOT THE PLANE DOWN WITH A MISSILE AFTER TRACKING IT FOR 2 1/2 HOURS. THE KOREAN AIR LINES PLANE WAS CARRYING 269 PEOPLE AND THE WORLD HAS REACTED WITH OUTRAGE TO THE DISASTER.

TASS SAID +AN UNIDENTIFIED PLANE RUDELY VIOLATED THE SOVIET STATE BORDER AND INTRUDED DEEP INTO THE SOVIET UNION+S AIR SPACE ... IN VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS, THE PLANE FLEW WITHOUT NAVIGATION LIGHTS, DID NOT REACT TO RADIO SIGNALS OF THE SOVIET DISPATCHER SERVICES AND ITSELF MADE NO ATTEMPTS TO ESTABLISH SUCH COMMUNICATION CONTACT.+

THE AGENCY SAID IT WAS NATURAL+ THAT SOVIET FIGHTERS WERE SCRAMBLED TO INTERCEPT THE PLANE. THEY +REPEATEDLY TRIED TO ESTABLISH CONTACTS WITH THE PLANE USING GENERALLY ACCEPTED SIGNALS,+ TASS SAID.

+THE INTRUDER PLANE, HOWEVER, IGNORED ALL THIS. OVER THE SAKHALIN ISLAND, A SOVIET AIRCRAFT FIRED WARNING SHOTS WITH TRACER SHELLS ALONG THE FLYING ROUTE OF THE PLANE. SOON AFTER THIS, THE PLANE LEFT THE LIMITS OF SOVIET AIR SPACE AND CONTINUED ITS FLIGHT TOWARD THE SEA OF JAPAN.+

AFTER 10 MINUTES, THE REPORT SAID, THE PLANE +COULD BE OBSERVED NO MORE.+

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ACCORDING TO TASS, +A HULLABALOO HAS BEEN RAISED IN THE U.S.A. AND SOME OTHER COUNTRIES AROUND A SOUTH KOREAN PLANE ... ONE+S ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO THE FACT THAT ALREADY IN THE FIRST REPORT ABOUT THIS REFERENCE WAS MADE TO THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.+

TASS CLAIMED +FURTHER REPORTS EMANATING FROM THE UNITED STATES PROVIDE INCREASINGLY MORE GROUNDS TO CONSIDER THAT THE INTINERARY AND THE NATURE OF THE FLIGHT WERE NOT ACCIDENTAL.+

IT SAID U.S. TRACKERS +FOLLOWED THE FLIGHT ... IN A MOST ATTENTIVE MANNER. SO ONE MAY ASK THAT IF IT WERE AN ORDINARY FLIGHT OF A CIVIL AIRCRAFT ... THEN WHY WERE STEPS NOT TAKEN FROM THE AMERICAN SIDE TO END THE GROSS VIOLATION OF THE AIR SPACE OF THE U.S.S.R. AND GET THE PLANE BACK TO AN INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT ROUTE?+

THE OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY CHARGED THE FLIGHT WAS AN EFFORT +TO ATTAIN SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE AIMS WITHOUT HINDRANCE USING CIVILIAN PLANES AS A COVER.+

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